

2018 Annual Report

Parks and Green Spaces Committee

Committee members, Carol Coffin, Susan Dixon, Jorie Jurgens, Susan Kilborn, Bobbie Neuman, Margo Kingston and Mildred Nance continue to work as directed by our Mission Statement to monitor and advise the Village Administration and the Board regarding the preservation, maintenance and improvement of the parks and green spaces of the village. The Committee was greatly saddened by the loss of long time member, Polly Lawrence.

Much of the Committee's effort was focused on the Buffer Area this year. We had several "walk throughs" with Village staff to assess current plantings and make decisions on plant improvements. A new Master Plan for the park was formulated. An array of Hydrangeas, Nandinas, Beautyberry's and a Redbud tree were chosen for selected areas of the Buffer. Also, it was decided that Mondo grass will be used as ground cover in areas not suitable for support of other plants. In addition, there will be some modifications to the two storm drain inlets and swales for better control of rainwater runoff. Also, before any plantings, the sidewalk will be replaced in the full length of the buffer so that a wider walk can be constructed.

In response to recommendations by the committee it was determined by the Village Arborist that a tree at the end of Montgomery street near the Buffer was not healthy and should be removed.

Committee members worked with the Tree Committee and the Environment Committee to plan events for the April 21 Earth Day celebration of the Village's designation as a Tree City which will take place in the Small Triangle Park. A lilac tree will be planted in the Park as part of the ceremonies.

The Committee applauds the excellent plans for the redevelopment of the Brookville Road Park. Early in the process, Committee members had visited the park to assess the need for improvement, interviewed citizens who lived close by and used the park, and also submitted suggestions for improvement,

The Western Grove Park was officially opened on November 5. It is beautifully constructed and includes enticing play areas for children as well as outstanding features such as a plant compass. The Village will be responsible for garden maintenance of that park. Committee members stepped in to trim the native grasses to permit new growth. SEE PHOTO.

Again, in December the committee met for the annual boxwood trimming session. This year, boxwoods at Lenox, Melrose and Kirke Street as well as those at Chevy Chase circle were pruned.

Susan Kilborn, co-chair

Margo Kingston, co-chair



Figures 1 & 2: Cleaning the planting bed for spring blooms at Western Grove Park

